

Hampshire Telegraph (Portsmouth),
Saturday, April 4, 1868

WRECK OF A STEAMER AND GREAT LOSS OF LIFE.— Captain Peake's report on the loss of the Peninsular and Oriental Company's steamer *Niphon*, near Amoy, on the 25th of January, has arrived in this country. The captain states that, much to his surprise, the vessel struck on the House Hill reef, and immediately began to fill and break up, the waves being very violent. Three of the boats were washed away or rendered useless, but the remaining three started for the shore with passengers. The Malay crew in one of them deserted on reaching land, but the other boats continued to pass from the vessel to the shore until all had been removed but the captain, chief-officer, carpenter, some of the crew, and some Chinese passengers, who could not be induced to descend from the main rigging. By the upsetting of one of the boats eleven persons were drowned. On the following morning early, after an ineffectual attempt to save the mails, all on board managed to get ashore, with the exception of one Chinese, who refused to leave the rigging, and perished at the breaking up of the vessel, just as the last boat left her. On the following day the shipwrecked people arrived in Amoy in the American steamer *Fung Shuey*. The cargo of the *Niphon*, as well as the vessel herself, is a total loss